

Town of Locke, Boat House
River Road
Locke
Sacramento County
California

HABS No. CA-2071 AA

HABS,
CAL,
34-LOCKE,
1/27 -

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS...

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. CA-2071 AA

TOWN OF LOCKE

BOAT HOUSE

Location: River Road (County Road, E-13, east bank of Sacramento River; west side of River Road), Locke, Sacramento County, California.

USGS Courtland Quadrangle,
UTM Coordinates: 10:630460:4234375

Present Owner: Frank Schmiedel
P.O. Box 1045
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Present Occupant: Frank Schmiedel.

Present Use: Boat launching and storage house.

Significance: This structure, built as a steamer shed by Southern Pacific Railroad Company, served as a point of shipping delta agricultural products during the early 20th century.

PART I. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural merit and interest: The wooden structure forms an important part of the relationship of Locke to the Sacramento River. It is a dominant structure on the town's periphery, providing a backdrop for the smaller wooden structures.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The rectangular building is one story with loft, and is approximately eight hundred eighty feet across the west River Road front by forty feet deep.
2. Foundation: Wooden pilings and concrete piers, with wooden skirting along the east facade.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Corrugated sheet metal.
4. Structural system, framing: Heavy timber construction with Belgian truss roof framing. A structural system of Pratt trusses supports south shed addition and one section near the north end.

5. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc: Two heavy timber ramps on the east side of the building allow access from the road. Near the north end is a heavy timber loading dock with a short wooden ladder attached to its south end. Six open-string wooden steps on the east facade lead to a small doorway.

A closed-string wooden stairway leads down to a wooden dock on the west side. The wooden railing extends down further to the lower level and around the edges of the dock. There are two steps from the dock to a cantilevered deck, that has a wooden gang plank leading down on the south to a lower deck. The lower wooden deck extends the length of the boat house.

6. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: Large frame garage doors, with diagonal lattice across the face, punctuate the east facade.
- b. Windows and shutters: Wooden windows with two-over-two-light, double-hung sash and wooden surrounds are on the west facade. Other wooden windows on the west facade have nine-light fixed sashes. There are wooden louvre windows in the east facade.

7. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: Gable roof with corrugated sheet metal covering. The southwest section has a shed roof covered with asphalt roofing.
- b. Cornice, eaves: Open eaves; a wooden gutter with metal downspouts forms a part of the fascia.
- c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: Long gabled monitors, pierced by wooden louvres, straddle the ridge of the roof. The ends and the roof are covered with corrugated sheet metal. Two hoist towers, housing the launching equipment, stand approximately at third-way points on the west facade. The hip roofs and facades are covered with corrugated sheet metal. Four large, round sheet-metal vents topped by rain hoods project through the roof of the center section.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The entrance on the east opens into the large warehouse structure. The center section is the original building with later additions. The addition on the north end was the first and the south end the most recent. There is an elevator hoist tower in the center and north end section. Spaces have been partitioned off with plywood, forming offices and living spaces. A small workshop is at the extreme north end.

2. Flooring: Narrow board flooring laid over wide, heavy timber flooring. The floor boards run on the diagonal in the south section.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: Exposed structure and corrugated sheet metal.
4. Stairways: Wooden open-string stairways lead up to the lofts. The simple wooden railing extends from the first floor up to the loft, turns, extending the length of the opening, turning again across the end of the opening and ending at the wall.
5. Mechanical equipment:
 - a. Plumbing: Modern plumbing fixtures.
 - b. Lighting: One electrical light fixture in the center of each truss, with a porcelain enameled shade and a single bare bulb.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The boat house sits along the east bank of the Sacramento River on the levee, facing River Road on the east. The business buildings of Locke are across the road to the east. A gravel parking area is between the paved road and the boat house.

Prepared by: John P. White
Project Supervisor
Historic American
Buildings Survey
July 1979

PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey in cooperation with the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation and the Chinese Historical Association of America. The recording project was completed during the summer of 1979 under the general direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS; Kenneth L. Anderson, Jr., Principal Architect; John P. White, Project Supervisor (Texas Tech University); Pamela O. Chang, Architectural Foreman (University of California, Berkeley); with student architects William F. Hand (Auburn University); Clemson Lam (University of Hawaii); Gregory C. Tung (Yale University); and David G. Virgil (Carnegie-Mellon University), at the HABS Field Office in Sacramento, California. The drawings were edited in the HABS Washington office in January 1980 by staff architects William Graham and David Marsh. The written data was edited by staff historian Jan Cigliano during January-March 1980.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

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